

QUOTATIONS

from the famous & infamous

Large minds discuss ideas.

Average minds discuss events.

Small minds discuss people.

-anonymous

Nothing in the world is accomplished with passion.

-fortune cookie

Governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed.

-Declaration of Independence

Distrust anyone in whom the desire to punish is powerful.

-F. Nietzsche

There is only one good, knowledge,
and one evil, ignorance.

-Socrates

poems /by Soulstice

Shadow

Any light will cast

this blackened ego, this

mysterious figure and lifelong friend.

No excuse for loneliness, or aloneness,
for it is easy to conjure up this sounding board
who is non-judgmental.

the homeless

There they lay, forgotten and alone.

No television, no cordless phone

A cardboard box is their home.

How civilized can we really be?

Ignoring, claiming not to see.

When what they desire is to be free.

Free from poverty and loneliness.

Free from bigotry and hunger.

Free from negligence and weariness.

We've made homelessness a crime
Like vagrancy. Indigents with a dime.
will soon be serving prison time.

STEAL THIS ZINE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



S
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& Friends

THE MANIPULATOR

With open arms we accept the Manipulator into our homes and proudly display the hexagon shire. The family eagerly gathers before this god-like creation for daily worship.

Its sheer presence draws you to it and soon an overwhelming addiction occurs as it sucks the very life from your being. The time we spend worshipping this god removes us from reality. It eliminates the exploration of good music, literature and the arts from our lives. It excludes conversation and discussion, and worst of all it threatens family ties.

Like mindless zombies unable to breach the vice-like grip of the Manipulator, who has so skillfully, yet oblivious to us, seduced our minds, influencing our ideas, thoughts, fears, desires.

Each evening we sit before it as it shares with us the daily miseries of the world around us. It may be time to remove this god from your home.



This award goes out to all of you who have been abstaining from eating red meat and dairy products in order to diminish your risk of a heart attack.

It has been brought to our attention by "they" that it actually is more advantageous to eat junk food in order to eliminate heart attacks.

Apparently, salicylates, which appears in many junk food products is a distant cousin to aspirin, and therefore, this association has forced "they" to conclude that the lower incidence of heart attacks in this country is actually the increase devouring of junk food.

Welcome to **Steal This Zine**. We will attempt to offer to you our view of this crazy, mixed-up world. It's aggravations, it ironies, its beauty. We will offer news briefs, poems, articles, points of interest, and just plain absurdities that we come across in our daily lives. We will attempt to get this issue published and distributed before we concern ourselves with issues. One day at a time can get you along a lot further than facing an arena filled with hungry lions.

I would like to pay respect and give thanks to Abbie Hoffman who gave us so much, including this great saying "Steal This" for the title of our zine. We hope to share some of his ideas with you in this issue.

We also hope to share the profound wisdom of Noam Chomsky and other great thinkers. We will also share with you quotations, poems, and great lines from famous and infamous people.

We hope you enjoy this issue. If a second issue is published we will supply an address for possible correspondence.

Trust No One
Stupidity is forever
Ignorance is temporary
Just say Know
No means No
Make it so
What, me worry?
Let's eat out
Live for today
Life's a beach
Attitude is everything
Do it now
Plant a tree
Mean people suck
Live a little
I love you
You are here
Save the Humans
It's all fake
"He's dead, Jim."
One step beyond
Less is more

Black is beautiful
Nothing in excess
Nothing lasts forever
Everything still exists
Just do it
There it is!
Everything gets recycled
I'm so tired

Please submit suggestions to:

Steal This Zine
P.O. Box 265
Charlestown, RI 02813

THREE

LITTLE

WORDS

Volume 1, Issue 1

May 1996

Life's a mystery

Worry changes nothing

Tomorrow never knows

People before profits

Don't bother me

Being and Nothingness

Failure is impossible

Wait 'til tomorrow

Be Here Now

Visualize world peace

Eat your vegetables

Standing Room Only

Free Leonard Peltier

Why be normal?

Klaattu Barada Nikto

UFO's are real

In the beginning...

Silence is Golden

Don't postpone joy

We the people

To absent friends

Read a book

Save the planet

Truth in masquerade

Make a difference

Extinct is forever

Born again pagan

Can't beat beats

Honor Mother Nature

Food for thought

Seize the day

Hemp, hemp, hooray

E pluribus unum

STEAL THIS ZINE

Vol. 1 Issue 1

The Truth Is Out There

July 1996

Kill the Messenger

by David B. Sherman

According to the government, the Freemen have been writing bad checks, threatening local officials, and committing a few other minor crimes. Does this justify a, so far, 78-day tie-up of government resources, including several armored vehicles, massive power generators, FBI manpower and many millions of dollars?

Remember the scandal a few years ago about the dozens of members of Congress who had passed bad checks, some of them passing several hundred each, totaling more money than all of the Freemen combined have probably ever seen. I didn't see anything on the news about the FBI surrounding any congressmen's houses.

What about the comment Newt Gingrich made last year that the President should bring extra bodyguards if he planned to go to Georgia? Sounds like threatening a government official to me; but no armored personnel carrier smashed through Newt's front door.

Yet the government maintains that they are after the freemen for their crimes, not their political beliefs. Their real crime was not passing bad checks, but being critical of the Federal government. So the government threatens them with heavy weaponry, shines bright lights into their windows to keep them from sleeping, blasts loud noise at them, cuts power to their homes, and refuses food to be brought to them in order to "convince" them to surrender. (The government's

definition of convincing sounds a lot like psychological warfare to me.)



There have been several offers by the Freemen to end the standoff, but each offer has met with a "NO" from the FBI. The content of the Freemen's offers was not even discussed on the news in anything but the most vague and general terms, so we have no way of knowing exactly what their offer actually consisted of. And the government has the nerve to say that they need armored vehicles to use against a few rifles because the Freemen "refuse to negotiate." I was always led to believe that negotiation takes two sides offering counter proposals, not one side making offers and another side saying "it's our way or else."

The Freemen may very well be the fundamentalist, racist nuts the government says they are, and there

is quite a bit of evidence indicating that they are guilty of what the FBI accuses them of. What is objectionable is not the arrest of these people, but the manner in which the arrests were attempted. The government knew very well that they were setting up another situation (like Waco and Ruby Ridge) in which violence could easily happen and lives could be lost. Once again, like Waco, these individuals could have been picked up one at a time with much less hassle and expense, and, once again, the Freemen's attitudes towards the government were used as an excuse to set up a potentially violent situation. As objectionable as their supposed views are, unpopular opinions should not be used as an excuse for different treatment under the law.

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About Steal This Zine

Within these pages are articles, information, quotations, ideas and opinions. We have selected the "Steal This" line from Abbie Hoffman whom I'm sure would not mind. After all, he fought hard to change the establishment. Much of this information will not be found in the mainstream press, partially due to suppression by Big Brother. Newspapers are full of exploitative news in order to mask the existence of real problems, and/or in order to cover up covert operations. We know the "truth is out there" and our intention is to present some of these stories the press will not write about and allow you to pursue the legitimacy of these happenings if you find them as abhorrent as we do. Our government consistently lies to us. How do we change this? Dissemination of information is one way.

Elimination of civil liberties and the suppression of the freedom of speech are real and growing dangers in our society. Political correctness, euphemisms and vague meanings are political con games equivalent to George Orwell's "newspeak" from 1984. These methods are used to confuse and control the masses. Ayn Rand said, "All philosophical con games count on your using words as vague approximations."

We all want to reduce/eliminate crime so that we may feel safe in our world, but not at the expense of civil liberties. It is imperative that each and every one of us do our part to maintain our civil rights and our freedom of speech. Writing to your representatives, letters to the editor of your newspaper, flyers and zines are just a few ways you can begin to spread the truth.

Please send correspondence to the address below. If appropriate and with your permission we will print your opinions in our next issue.

For a copy of STZ send three stamps to the address below.

Steal This Zine
P.O. Box 265
Charlestown, RI 02813



To Absent Friends ☹

Timothy Leary 1920-1996

"I am not a leader, but rather a cheerleader, urging people to be careful and think for yourself."

STEAL THIS ZINE AN INDECENT ACT BY STEVE RUSSELL (RETIRED JUDGE)

You motherfuckers in Congress have dropped over the edge of the earth this time. I understand that very few of the swarm of high-dollar lobbyists around the telecommunications bill had any interest in content regulation - they were just trying to get their clients an opportunity to dip their buckets in the money stream that cyberspace may become - but the public interest sometimes needs a little attention.

First, some basics. If your children walked by a public park and heard some angry sumbltches referring to Congress as "the sorriest bunch of cocksuckers ever to sell out the First Amendment," or suggesting that "the only reason to run for Congress these days is to suck the lobbyists' dicks and fuck the people who sent you there," no law would be broken. If your children did not wish to hear that language, they could just walk away. Thanks to your heads-up-your-ass dereliction of duty, if they read the same words in cyberspace, they could call the FBI!

Your blind acceptance of the dubious - make that dog-ass dumb-idea that children are harmed by hearing so-called dirty words has created some pretty stupid regulations in the past. But those stupid regulations will not take hold in cyberspace without consequences that even the public-relations whores in Congress should find unacceptable.

In cyberspace, there is no place. The Internet is everywhere you can plug in a modem. An upload from Amsterdam can become a download in Idaho; the "community standards" are those of the whole world. By trying to regulate obscenity and indecency on the Internet, you have reduced the level of expression allowed consenting adults to that of the most anal-retentive blue-balled fuckhead U.S. attorney in the country. Call Senator Exon an "ignorant motherfucker" in Lincoln, Nebraska, and find yourself prosecuted in Bibleburg, Mississippi.

All universities have Internet servers, and every English department has at least one scholar who can read Chaucer's English - but not on the Internet anymore. Comparative literature classes might read Boccaccio - but not on the Internet anymore. What if some U.S. attorney hears about Othello and Desdemona "making the beast with two backs?" Is Shakespeare off the Internet?

This is bullshit - unconstitutional bullshit, and also bad-policy bullshit. And what mess of pottage have you acquired in exchange for the rights of a free people? Have you protected one child from reading dirty words? Probably not.

You have, however, leveled the standards of political debate to a point where a history buff would not dare to upload some of the federalist vs. Anti-Federalist election rhetoric to a Web site. Have you cleansed the Internet of even the rawest pornography? No, because it is a worldwide system. You have, however, handed the government a powerful new tool to harass its critics: a prosecution for indecent commentary in any district in the country.

To violate your ban on indecency, I have been forced to use and overuse so-called indecent language. But if I called you a bunch of goddamn motherfucking cocksucking cunt-eating blue-balled bastards with the morals of muggers and the intelligence of pond scum, that would be nothing compared to this indictment: you have sold the First

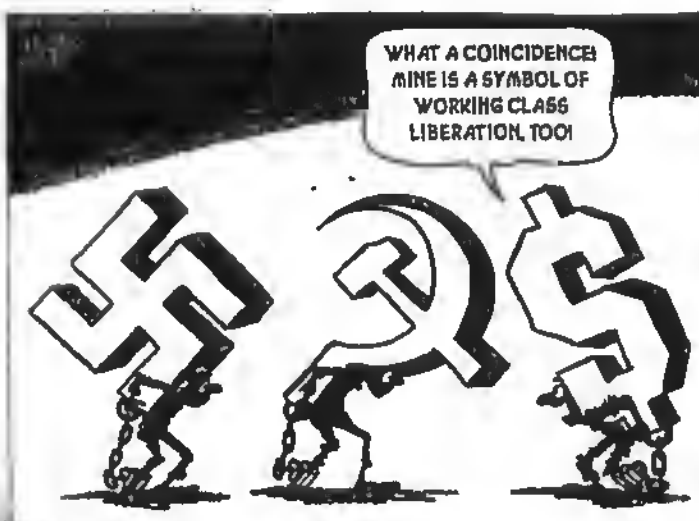
Amendment, your birthright and that of your children. The Founders turn in their graves.

From "The X-On Congress": Indecent Comment on an Indecent Subject," an article by Steve Russell, a retired judge in Texas, that appeared in the February 8 issue of the American Reporter, an on-line journal, and has since circulated widely on the Internet. Russell was responding to the Communications Decency Act, part of the telecommunications bill that congress passed on February 8. The law, which was sponsored by Senator Jim Exon (D., Nebr.), makes it a felony to transmit "indecent" or "patently offensive" material over computer networks; violators are subject to up to two years in prison and \$250,000 in fines. Civil rights groups and on-line organizations that are challenging the law in court say that it is unconstitutional, arguing that the "indecent" standard applied to the print media. Russell teaches criminal justice at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

QUESTION AUTHORITY

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

First Amendment



STEAL THIS ZINE

Quotes

"He who knows nothing is nearer the truth than he whose mind is filled with falsehoods and errors." Thomas Jefferson

"A monopoly on the means of communication may define a ruling elite more precisely than the celebrated Marxian formula of 'monopoly of the means of production'. Since man extends his nervous system through channels of communication like the written word, the telephone, radio, etc., he who controls these media controls part of the nervous system of every member of society. The contents of these media become part of the contents of every individual's brain." Robert Anton Wilson

"The more corrupt the government, the greater the number of laws." Tacitus

"The true patriot is one who gives his highest loyalty not to his country as it is, but to his own best

conceptions of what it can and ought to be." Albert Camus

"What we need is not the will to believe, but the wish to find out, which is exactly the opposite." Bertrand Russell

"If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, it expects what never was and never will be." Thomas Jefferson

"There's no limit to the changes that can be made if people actually undertook the hard work of organizing instead of staring out in misery at what is happening." Noam Chomsky

"I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." Voltaire

Don't Forget to Brush

Does a correlation between certain disease and the mercury contained in amalgam dental fillings exist? The American Dental Association (ADA) will admit to "minute amounts of mercury vapors being released when you chew your food or grind your teeth." However, they claim that a "very small number of people are allergic, and that on the whole amalgams are a safe material to use in dental fillings." But is the danger really minute? And even if only 5% of the population are allergic, that staggering amount is almost 12 million people.

Independent reports over the last twenty years paint a different picture from what the ADA would have us believe. Mercury is toxic and can affect the nervous system and neurotransmitters in the brain. Mercury is a toxic substance which could possibly contribute to the degeneration of nerve cells, which is the major problem in Alzheimer's disease.

In May 1991, a research team at the University of Kentucky stated that "a probable relationship of mercury, exposed from mercury-amalgam fillings to both Alzheimer's disease and cardiovascular disease."

Several countries have already banned mercury from amalgam implants. In 1994 the chief advisor of WHO (World Health Organization), stated that "the use of mercury in dental fillings is not safe and should be avoided."

So whom are we to believe? The ADA or WHO? Individuals suffering from ailments associated with the nervous system may want to consult a trustworthy dentist. The problem with that is the ADA has threatened to charge dentists with "unethical behavior" if they propose such a theory.

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STEAL THIS ZINE Tornadoes, and Floods, and Droughts, Oh My!

The rash of unsettled weather across the country has raised the suspicion of some in the scientific community, as well as concern from environmentalists. Are we experiencing normal weather phenomenon, are we unlucky, or could there be some force behind the strange, brutal, devastating weather we are encountering in this country?

HAARP (High-frequency Active Aural Research Project) is new technology being tested in Alaska by the Pentagon. HAARP emits extremely low frequency radio energy into the atmosphere. The hair raising aspect of this experiment is the potential control of ionosphere processes for military objectives. HAARP project manager, John Heckscher, a scientist, called concerns about the transmitter's impact unfounded. "It's not unreasonable to expect that something three times more powerful than anything that's previously been built might have unforeseen effects."

Several hundred 72-foot tall antennas are used to direct an intense beam of focused electromagnetic energy upwards to strike the ionosphere. The objective is to burn holes in the ionosphere for potential "control" for military objectives. Can a continued beam cause a problem with the polar caps? Can these disturbances trigger destructive weather patterns? What danger to radiation is there to aircraft traveling through this 30 mile affected area? Does this pose a threat to the local inhabitants or to the wildlife in the area? Are environmental laws being broken by our government? Can these low frequency waves (1-20 Hz) affect human brain waves?

These are just a few of the questions we must ask ourselves and our government officials. To learn more about this formidable project you might want to read "Angels Don't Play This HAARP" by Dr. Nick Begich. (This was the #9 censored story of 1995 from Project Censored Yearbook.)

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I'VE GOT YOU UNDER MY SKIN

Picture this. You've just had a baby. Your first born. You're proud parents. The hospital informs you that it no longer uses the old-fashioned, out-of-date method of using footprints to identify your child. Instead the most recent tracking/scanning device will be used to protect your child from a kidnapping, or becoming lost and missing. They will surgically implant a microchip under the skin, behind the ear. Out of sight out of mind.

This scenario is in the foreseeable future. A microchip that can be placed under the skin for "protection and safety" is currently available. A similar device is being used to monitor and track wildlife and household pets, but technological advances have made it suitable for humans.

A microchip implant will be able to locate a lost child, or find a pilot/soldier who has been separated from his troop. Even the Alzheimic patient could be tracked if they meander into the jungles of society. All of these reassurances that your lost love will be found - and soon - are a comfort. But at what cost? Will government find a way to misuse this new technology?

Additional aspects of a subcutaneous device will be the elimination for social security numbers and cards, or any sort of identification now needed to survive this crazy technological age we live in. Imagine walking into any store, restaurant, hotel and having the clerk scan the back of your ear. At that point you would either take home your groceries, eat a delicious meal, relax in the hot tub in the honeymoon suite, or be handcuffed and dragged away if there happens to be a warrant out for your arrest. Or perhaps you've over extended your credit card limit. No more secrecy, no more privacy. Big Brother will know the score.

Although the idea of a microprocessor chip has its advantages, we know that government has a way of turning a positive into a negative. These microchips can be custom-made to monitor your psychological behavior. These chips could also "reprogram" individuals to perform as socially acceptable citizens. Give the government an inch and they will take your freedom, your individuality, your creativity. Non-conformists are unacceptable in our society.

Welcome to a brave new world indeed. A world where computers will monitor your feelings and thoughts and adjust your emotions to that of an acceptable citizen. These custom-made microchip processors will release the chemical needed to neutralize you. At what point will you be required to submit to this chip? ☹

CORPORATE WELFARE

by David B. Sherman

Since the so-called Republican Revolution of 1994, one of the issues receiving the most attention has been welfare reform. As usual, however, the debate on the subject has been one-sided and misleading at best. Usually the debate is centered around AFDC, Medicaid, and tax breaks to the working poor. Few will discuss our government's corporate handouts which are almost double the amount of the budget of all these social programs combined.

Corporate welfare has been discussed somewhat in the mainstream media, but the impression given is that the economy could not prosper if corporate welfare was ended. The facts show that corporations could not prosper at the expense of workers if corporate welfare was ended. In the 1950's, 23% of all federal income taxes were paid by corporations. In 1991 the amount was down to 9.2%; and according to a 1993 General Accounting Office study, more than 40% of corporations in the United States with assets of \$260 million or more.. "either paid no income taxes or paid income taxes of less than \$100,000."

Last year, Robert Reich, Secretary of Labor, made a statement that we should seriously start looking at corporate welfare and immediately the policy makers in Clinton's administration issued a statement saying that corporate welfare did not really exist, and was not a problem. Let's look at some of the facts.

- The 1980 Government Patent Policy Act gives money to private corporations for research and development, and then allows the company to keep the patent and make money from it. For example, the AIDS drug AZT was developed completely with public funds and the patent was given to Burroughs Wellcome Corp., which has earned \$300 million with it in the past two years, with no royalties paid to taxpayers.
- In 1986 the bankruptcy code was "reorganized" to allow corporations, often when they are still solvent, to get rid of their "debts." "Debts" can now include EPA required toxic site clean up costs, personal injury judgments, and retirement benefits.
- The US Department of Agriculture gives about \$100 million a year to agriculture and food companies (including McDonalds, Kraft and Archer-Daniels-midland) in tax break and subsidies, so they can advertise their products overseas.
- The USDA also sets sugar prices on U.S. grown sugar artificially high, then charges tariffs on foreign sugar to increase the price. This ends up costing American consumers about \$1.4 billion a year.

- The U.S. oil industry gets tax breaks which allow it to fully deduct the cost of locating and drilling for oil.

So we see that the 'free market' rules apply when the poor are trying to get money to live, but when ultra-rich corporations are expected to compete in the market, government subsidies and tax breaks are the rule.

Censorship is un-American

by Kristen Cantara

Let censorship be your eyes -

you'll go blind

Let censorship be your ears

you'll go deaf

Let censorship be your mouth

you'll lose your voice

Let censorship be your arms and legs

you'll be paralyzed

Let censorship be your brain

you'll lose your ability to think

Let censorship be your conscience

you'll lose your ability to feel

You call yourselves free

but censorship binds and gags you

It's no longer reality -

it's what censorship thinks reality should be

Do you really want that?

I doubt it.

✂

STEAL THIS ZINE

The Looting of America

In 1989, police stopped 49 year old Ethel Hylton at Houston's Hobby Airport and told her she was under arrest because a drug-sniffing dog had scratched at her luggage. Agents searched her bags and strip-searched her, but found no drugs. They did find \$39,100 in cash - money she had received from an insurance settlement, and her life savings accumulated through over 20 years of work as a hotel housekeeper and hospital janitor. Ethel Hylton completely documented where she had gotten the money and was never charged with a crime. But the police kept her money anyway. Nearly seven years later, she is still trying to get her money back. This is just one of a large and growing list of Americans -- now numbering in the hundreds of thousands - who have been victimized by civil asset forfeiture. Under civil asset forfeiture everything you own can be literally taken away even if you are never indicted, tried or convicted of a crime. Suspicion of offenses, which, if proven in court, might result in a \$200 fine or probation is being used to justify seizure of tens or even hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of property.

How extensive are seizures in America today? In April 1990, *The Washington Post* reported that the US Marshals Service alone had an inventory of over \$1.4 billion in seized assets, including over 30,000 cars, boats, homes and businesses. Federal and state agencies seizing property now include FBI, DEA, US Marshals Service, Coast Guard, IRS, local police, highway patrol, Department of Housing & Urban Development, FDA and the Bureau of Land Management. Asset forfeiture is a growth industry. Seizures increased from \$27 million in 1986 to over \$644 million in 1991. In 1993, seizures exceeded \$2 billion. Under civil seizure, property is charged with an offense. Even if you are totally innocent the government can still confiscate your guilty property. If government agents seize your property under civil asset forfeiture, you can forget about being innocent until proven guilty, due process of law, the right to an attorney or even the right to a trial. All of those rights only exist if you are charged with a criminal offense subject to imprisonment. If you (or your property) are accused of a civil offense (not resulting in your imprisonment) the Supreme Court has ruled that you have no presumption of innocence, no right to an attorney, and no protection from double jeopardy. To get a trial, you have to post a non-refundable 'bond' of 10% of the value of your property. You have to pay attorney fees, ranging from \$5,000 to \$100,000, out of your own pocket. Money you pay your attorney is also subject to seizure if the government alleges that those funds are tainted.

Every week, over 5,000 Americans are losing their cars, homes, bank accounts and businesses. Only three in 100 confiscation victims ever get a trial. (*Nexus*: June-July 1996/source: A-albionic Research, 17 July 1996) ✂